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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: S1022/8602
Serial No.:   Unassigned
Filing Date: Herewith
For: DESIGN FLOW CHECKER

Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Sir:

IN THE CLAIMS

3.   A method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

for each data store generating a list therein containing an entry for each first dependent file in the data store, said entry including a first record having details of the first dependent file.

5.   A method according to claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

selecting the file locator from a file locator means which contains a plurality of file locators; and

selecting a file reader from file reader means which contain a plurality of file readers.

6.   A method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined parameter comprises the date on which the data file was last modified.

7.   A method according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined parameter is a UNIX date stamp.